343 The measure of the back wall is also the length
335 of the front, center, and back foundation beams and the "*planchitas.*" The side-wall measure is the length of the short foundation beams; the floor planks are a little shorter. The top wall planks, cornices, the beam over the veranda pillars, the planks for the loft floor, and the "*planchas*" holding the ends of the rafters are all one *vara* longer than the corresponding measurements at the lower floor. "*Trojes*" of 6 or 7 *varas* are the most common.

● 483 A "*troje,*" or house, may be moved completely to a new location in from 1 to 1½ days. Each piece is marked as the structure is dismantled and then reassembled in the same order. As many of
[211] the men cannot read, the side boards are marked with a symbol for each side and then numbered by a series of tally lines. A master carpenter is hired primarily to supervise the work and to make sure that the foundation frame is level.
[602] Relatives of the owner do the rest of the work and are fed, but receive no pay.

343 A "*troje,*" or house, may last 50 to 100 years or more, if not destroyed by fire. Cases where "*trojes*" have lasted longer than 80 years are exceptional. However, the roof shakes must be replaced at intervals. Pine shakes last only about 6 years, fir shakes about 10 years.

342 Tarascan kitchens are of two types. The
335 simpler structure is called "*torita,*" or kosína tórueri in Cherán (kosína kukuarékata, in Anga-huan). It has no loft or veranda. The floor plan is rectangular, with the door on one of the short sides. The roof has two sheds (fig. 9; pls. 5, upper, left; 6, upper, left). Subtypes may be distinguished according to the method of supporting the corner posts. In "*cocinas de pie derecho,*" the corner posts rest on wooden foundation beams, while in "*cocinas de horcón,*" the corner posts are set in the ground. Further differentiation may be made according to the presence or absence of a ridge pole.

The "*cocina de pie derecho*" starts with four foundation beams of heartwood, morticed at the corners and resting on four small stones. Four corner posts (aŋájtarakua) of heartwood of pine are morticed into the foundation beams. The posts have grooves on two sides to receive the

[p. 14 b]

342 owner, the master builder, and his helpers, and the nearer relatives of the house owner are now decorated with festoons of pieces of bread, some in the shape of animals, toasted wheat tortillas, and flowers. These are brought in a procession from the house of a relative. Women carry baskets on their heads and dance in the streets. The musicians accompany the party. The various articles are tied to the women's belts and then are hung about the necks of the men. These strings are called "*cuelgas*" (pl. 8, right). As a special guest, Beals was decorated with the others, and care was taken to explain to him that it was customary to return the belts. The master builder and, particularly, the house owner received several festoons of this kind.

Following this ceremony there was dancing, which lasted until late at night. In the particular [273] ceremony described, the householder drank very little. The next day several of the relatives returned with liquor and insisted that he get drunk with them as he had not drunk the day before.

The other major occasion on which ceremonies 483 occur in connection with houses is when a house is 342 moved from one location to another. A man wishing to move a house to a new location hires a 476 master builder to supervise the work. He also invites all his relatives, who are obligated to come. The women aid in preparing food, while the men take apart the house, carry it to the new location, and erect it again. The house owner takes no part in this work; in fact, he is apt to become drunk and be something of a nuisance. The relatives are fed at midday and again in the evening, but they do not ordinarily drink much until evening. Even then most of them are apt to go home before eating or immediately after eating. Ordinarily, a house will be moved completely in 1 day; sometimes, however, part of the roof will be unfinished, in which case a few men will return the next day to complete the work.

A special feature observed at a house moving, but nowhere else, was the serving of tobacco from the lowlands and corn husks for rolling cigarettes. At all other ceremonies the host frequently passed around cigarettes, but they were of the usual commercial type.

342 The house is the center of numerous other festivities and ceremonials, but they do not pertain to the house directly. The major occasions are

3: Beals, Carrasco & McCorkle E-5 (1940-1942)1944 NU34 Tarasco NU34
Sierra Tarascans

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Upper (left): Simple kitchen under construction in Cherán, "*pie derecho*" type. *Upper (right):* Two roof sections in place in process of moving a Cherán house. *Lower (left):* Arrangement of rafters in Paracho house without ridge pole. *Lower (right):* Old house in Paracho of unusual style. The elaborate carving and absence of capitals of the pillars should be noticed. The walls are of vertical planks rather than the normal horizontal construction.

[Endplate 5]